GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1797
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
BAN ON IMPORT OF BULK DRUGS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has banned import of bulk drugs from India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K.HANDIQUE)

(a) & (b) Based on the information made available by the High Commission of India, Islamabad in July, 2006 import of Pharmaceuticals into Pakistan is presently permitted on the basis of a Positive List of Imports from India and is restricted to only a few items.

In the aftermath of the earthquake on 8th October, 2005, the Pakistan government had for a limited period allowed import of relief items including certain medicines through Wagah land (road) border.

Both India and Pakistan signed and ratified the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) Agreement. The Notification issued by Government of Pakistan on 01 July, 2006, to give effect to SAFTA, however, limits SAFTA tariff concessions subject to import policy notified by Ministry of Commerce within the parameters of the Positive List for imports from India. No change in this position has been made in the Trade Policy for 2006-2007 announced by Government of Pakistan on 17.7.2006.